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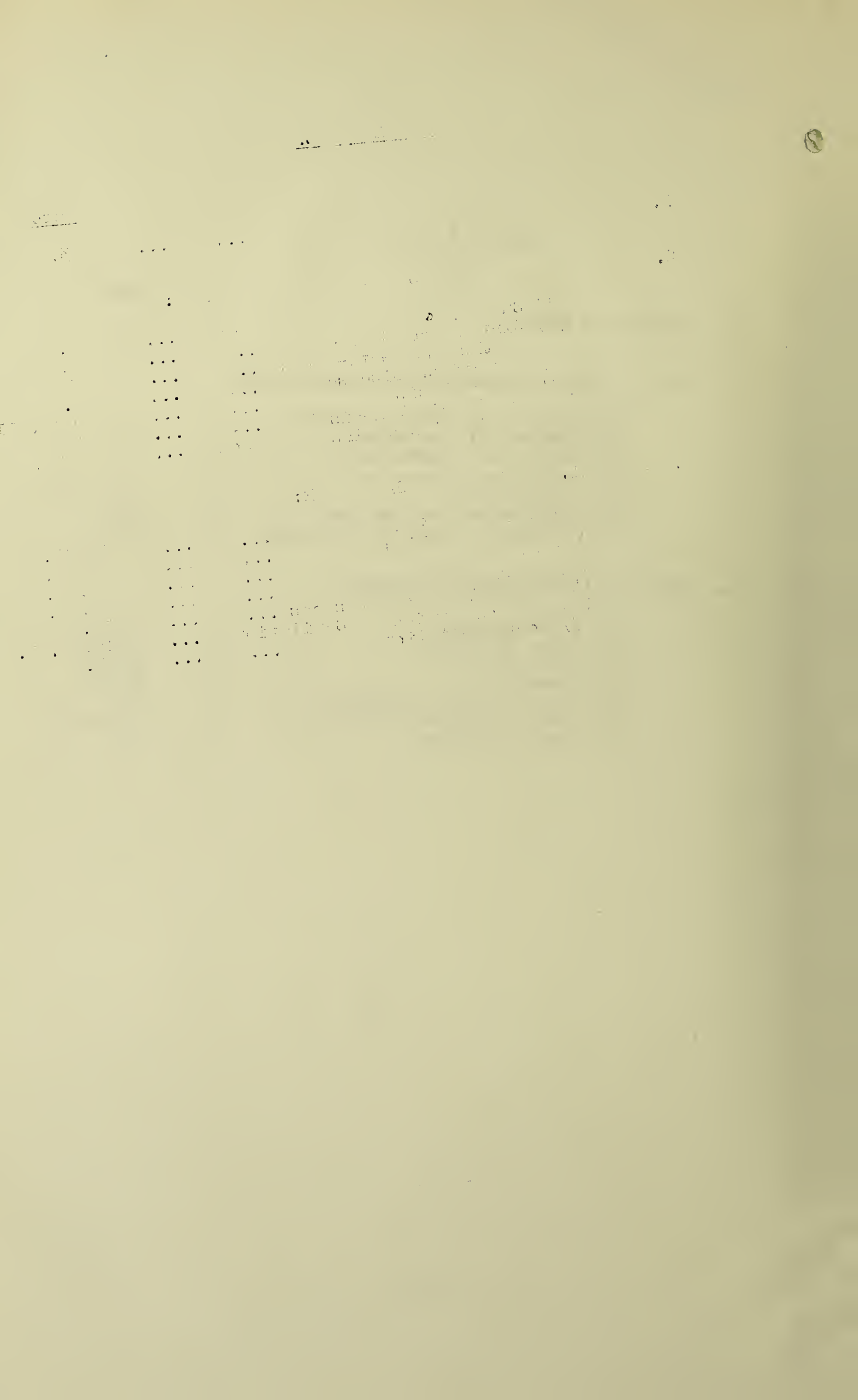
R E P O R T
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1951.

C O N T E N T S.

		Page
1.	PREFACE TO REPORT	3.
2.	PART 1. VITAL STATISTICS AND EPIDEMIOLOGY:	
	(1) Summary of Vital Statistics ...	5.
	(2) Births and Birth-Rates	6.
	(3) Deaths and Death-Rates	7.
	(4) Infectious Diseases	8.
	(5) Tuberculosis	9,10, 11.
	(6) Diphtheria Immunisation	11.
	(7) Vaccination against Smallpox ...	11,12.
3.	PART 11. ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE:	
	(1) Milk Supplies	14,15.
	(2) Water Supplies	15,16.
	(3) Food Control	17,18.
	(4) Housing	16,17.
	(5) Factories and Workshops	18.
	(6) General Hygiene & Sanitation ...	19,20,21.
	(7) Port Sanitation	21.



District Health Office,
County Offices,
Haverfordwest.
August, 1952.

To : The Fishguard and Goodwick Urban District Council:

Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Report upon matters affecting the public health for the year 1951. This is my fifth Annual Report.

There was a slight increase in the total population.

The number of live births remained substantially the same as for the preceding year. The general Birth-Rate of 13.9 per 1000 population is considerably lower than the Rate of 15.5 for the whole of England and Wales.

The number of Stillbirths (3) was the same as for the preceding year, and is higher than it should be. On the other hand, there was a large reduction in the number of Illegitimate Births.

It is satisfactory to record an appreciable (8) decrease in the total deaths over the preceding year. The Crude Death-Rate, however, is still a good deal higher than the average Rate for England and Wales.

The number of Infant Deaths remained the same as for 1950, and can be considered satisfactory.

There was a considerable decrease in deaths due to Cancer, which is all the more satisfactory when it is considered that Cancer appears to be on the increase in most parts of the Country.

Apart from Measles, the incidence of Infectious Diseases was low. For the fifth successive year there has not been a case of Diphtheria notified. This fact probably accounts for the increasing apathy of parents to have their children immunised. It is essential, if we are to keep free of Diphtheria, that the high level of Immunity obtained over the past ten years, be maintained by continued immunisation.

There was a considerable increase in the number of fresh cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year. The visit of the Mass Radiography Unit undoubtedly accounts for part of the increase. This is to be expected, as the Radiography Unit will detect cases which otherwise might escape detection, at least until a much later date. There was only 1 death from Tuberculosis, as compared with 2 such deaths in 1950.

The statistics of milk sampling show that the high standard of cleanliness in the vital product has been maintained. Credit is due to all concerned in the handling of milk.

The Housing Programme is inadequate to meet the demand for re-housing. The policy for dealing with low category premises in the District requires careful thought followed by firm action. There is a need for a number of dwellings to suit elderly people.

During the two years of Ice Cream sampling, the standard of cleanliness of this product has increased greatly. It will be noted that 80% of samples during 1951 were satisfactory.

The sewerage of the Fishguard Ward is unsatisfactory, and Lower Fishguard has no provision for sewage disposal.

Part 11 of this Report was prepared from reports and material from the Sanitary Inspector, and reflects the work carried out by his Department.

I wish to thank the Members of the Council, and the Officials, for their continued co-operation.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed): W. J. Y. SPEEDY,
District Medical Officer.

P A R T 1.

VITAL STATISTICS
and
EPIDEMIOLOGY

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SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1951.

1.	Estimated Mid-year Population	=	4,873 (4,827).
2.	Natural Increase in Population (i.e. Live Births minus Deaths).	=	Nil (-6).
3.	General Birth-Rate	=	13.9 (14.5).
4.	Stillbirth Rate	=	0.61 (0.62).
5.	Illegitimate Birth-Rate	=	0.2 (0.8).
6.	General Death-Rate	=	13.9 (15.7).
7.	Infantile Mortality Rate	=	29.4 (28.5).
8.	Cancer Death-Rate	=	1.6 (2.7).
9.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death-Rate	=	0.2 (0.41).
10.	Notification Rate of Pulmonary Tuberculosis	=	1.0 (Nil).
11.	Notification Rate of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	=	Nil (Nil).
12.	Notification Rate of Measles	=	54.0 (0.62).
13.	Notification Rate of Whooping Cough	=	10.0 (4.3).
14.	Notification Rate of Scarlet Fever	=	1.4 (0.41).
15.	Notification Rate of Pneumonia	=	1.0 (Nil).
16.	Notification Rate of Poliomyelitis	=	0.2 (0.2).

N. B. All rates are per 1000 of population, except the Infantile Mortality Rate which is per 1000 Live-Births.

BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATES.

Classification of Births.

	Live Births			Stillbirths		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	29	38	67	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	1	1	-	-	-
	29	39	68	1	2	3

Total Births for 1951	=	71	(73)
Live Births for 1951	=	68	(70)
Stillbirths for 1951	=	3	(3)
Illegitimate Births for 1951	=	1	(4)

Birth Rates.

General Birth Rate for District for 1951	= 13.9	(14.5)
General Birth Rate for England & Wales for 1951	= 15.5	(15.8)
Stillbirth Rate for District for 1951	= 0.61	(0.62)
Stillbirth Rate for England & Wales for 1951	= 0.36	(0.37)
Illegitimate Birth Rate for District for 1951	= 0.2	(0.8)

Discussion of Birth Statistics.

The total number of Births decreased over the preceding year. This is reflected in a lower Birth Rate. The Birth Rate for the District is considerably lower than the average Rate for the whole of England and Wales. The following table shows the Annual Number of live births, and birth rates, in the District over the past five years:-

Year	Number of Live Births	Birth Rate
1947	96	20.9
1948	76	15.9
1949	80	16.7
1950	70	14.5
1951	68	13.9

The number of Stillbirths was the same as for the preceding year, and the Stillbirth Rate is considerably higher than the average Rate for the whole of England and Wales. The following table shows the number of Stillbirths occurring annually in the District, over the past five years:-

Year	Number of Stillbirths
1947	3
1948	Nil
1949	3
1950	4
1951	1

There has been a large decrease in the number of Illegitimate Births during 1951. The following table shows the annual number of Illegitimate Births in the District, over the past five years:-

Year	Number of Illegitimate Births.
1947	4
1948	Nil
1949	1
1950	4
1951	1

DEATHS AND DEATH RATES

Classification of Deaths.

	M	F	Total
Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System	15	9	24
Diseases of Brain and Nervous System	7	7	14
Cancer	5	3	8
Communicable Diseases	2	6	8
Diseases of Respiratory System	4	-	4
Violent Deaths	1	1	2
Diseases of Digestive System	1	-	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	-	1
Diabetes	1	-	1
Unclassified	3	2	5
	40	28	68

General Death Rate.

Total Deaths for 1951 = 68 (76)

General Death Rate for District for 1951 = 13.9 (15.7)
General Death Rate for England & Wales for 1951 = 12.5 (11.6)

Deaths according to Age-Groups.

0	- 1	years	= 2.	30 - 50	years	= 5.
1	- 15	years	= 2.	50 - 70	years	= 24.
15	- 30	years	= Nil.	70+	years	= 35.

Infant Mortality.

The following Deaths of children under 1 year of age occurred during the year:-

Males = 2.
Females = Nil.
2 (2)

Infantile Mortality Rate for District for 1951 = 29.4 (28.5)
Infantile Mortality Rate for England & Wales for 1951 = 29.6(29.8)

These Infant Deaths were due to Prematurity (1), and Pneumonia (1). They both took place during the first three months of life.

Cancer Mortality.

The following Deaths from Cancer occurred during the year:-

Males = 5.
Females = 3.
8 (13).

Cancer Death Rate for 1951 = 1.6
Cancer Death Rate for 1950 = 2.7

Violent Deaths.

The following is a classification of Violent Deaths which occurred during 1951 :-

	M.	F.	Total
Motor Accidents	1	-	1
Drowning	-	1	1
	1	1	2 (Nil)

Discussion of Mortality Statistics.

There was a considerable reduction in the total deaths which occurred during 1951, as compared with the preceding year. The General Death Rate, however, still remains a good deal higher than the average Rate for the whole of England and Wales.

The number of Infant Deaths remained the same as for the preceding year. The Infantile Mortality Rate for the District compares favourably with the average Rate for the whole of England and Wales.

Whilst Cancer is generally on the increase, it is satisfactory to note the greatly reduced number of deaths from this cause in the District during 1951. In over 50% of deaths from Cancer, the Digestive Tract was involved. Two deaths (25%) were due to Cancer of the lungs.

Two (2) Violent Deaths were recorded during the year, as compared with no Violent Deaths in 1950. Probably, both of these deaths could have been prevented.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Incidence of Infectious Disease.

The following Infectious Diseases were notified during the year:-

	M.	F.	Total.
Measles	129	135	264
Whooping Cough	29	30	59
Scarlet Fever	3	4	7
Pneumonia	2	3	5
Poliomyelitis	1	-	1

There was a very high incidence of Measles and Whooping Cough, particularly in the first Quarter of the year. Several Infant Schools were closed for varying periods.

The number of Scarlet Fever cases was also high, as compared with previous years.

The incidence of other Infectious Diseases was small. No cases of Diphtheria have been notified for five successive years.

Mortality from Infectious Diseases.

The following Deaths from Infectious Disease occurred during the year:-

	M.	F.	Total
Influenza	1	4	5
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Measles	-	1	1
	2	6	8 (2)

There was, thus, a greatly increased mortality from Infectious Diseases during the year. The cause of this was chiefly Influenza occurring in the early part of the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Although Tuberculosis is an Infectious Disease it is dealt with separately because of its social and economic importance.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.
(i.e. Tuberculosis of the Lungs and Respiratory Passages).

Incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The following fresh cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year:-

Males	-	4
Females	-	1
		5 (Nil)

There has been a large increase in the number of fresh cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, as compared with 1950. Some of this increase can be accounted for by the visit of the Mass Radiography Unit. A similar increase has occurred in other Districts in the County.

The cases occurred in the following Age-Groups:-

0	- 5 years	=	Nil.
5	- 15 years	=	1.
15	- 30 years	=	2.
30	- 50 years	=	1.
50 +	years	=	1.

The following table shows the annual numbers of fresh cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, over the past five years:-

Year		M	F	Total.
1947	-	3	2	5
1948	-	2	2	4
1949	-	2	2	4
1950	-	-	-	-
1951	-	4	1	5
		11	7	18

It will be seen from this table that, apart from 1949, there has been no noticeable change in the numbers of fresh cases per year. There is a need for special education of Tuberculosis patients and their families, and also the general public. The County Chest Clinic is doing much in the way of education of patients and families. Also B.C.G. vaccination of family contacts has been started.

As regards the education of the general public, the facilities provided by the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis (N.A.P.T.) could be most useful.

Miniature Mass Radiography.

The second visit of the Miniature Mass Radiography Unit to Fishguard took place in the early part of the year. The following are the main statistics in connection with the visit. Figures in brackets are those for the previous visit in 1949:-

	M	F	Total
Total Examined	266	310	576 (406).

Miniature Mass Radiography (Continued).

Abnormalities Detailed.	M.	F.	Total
Definite or Suspected Tuberculosis	1	1	2
Healed Tuberculosis	8	9	17
Bronchitis	9	1	10
Bony Abnormality	10	10	20
Disease of Pleura	5	1	6
Heart Disease	1	2	3
Abnormality of Diaphragm	1	-	1
Non specific lung infection	1	1	2
Bronchiectasis	-	1	1
	36	26	62

It will be seen that there was a considerable increase in the total numbers attending at the second visit of this Unit. Once again more women took advantage of the Service than Men.

The large list of abnormalities detailed shows the usefulness of the Service.

A Study of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Western Pembrokeshire.

A special study of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Western Pembrokeshire over a 3 year period, involving 130 cases, has been made. It is hoped to produce a detailed Report upon this Study at a later date.

The following are some of the main facts which emerge from this Study:-

1. The incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis is greater in males than females.
2. Well over 50% of the total cases were in persons aged 15 to 35 years.
3. The classification of cases according to occupation gave the following occupations as the most dangerous:-

(a) Housewives - 25 cases.
(b) Office Workers - 16 cases.
(c) Schoolchildren - 11 cases.

The number of housewives affected (i.e. 25), represented almost half of the total cases amongst females.

4. The classification of site of residence and site of occupation showed that the greatest number of cases were urban-dwellers and urban workers. (in so far as the larger built-up districts in Western Pembrokeshire can be classified as urban).

5. Twenty-eight deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis were received over the same 3 year period. The average time between date of notification and date of death was 9 months.

Mortality was greater amongst females in the Rates of 4 to 3.

Over 50% of total deaths due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis were in the age-group 15 - 35 years.

Mortality from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

There was 1 death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year, as compared with 2 deaths during 1950.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death rate for 1951 = 0.2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate for 1950 = 0.41

It will be seen, therefore, that there has been a considerable decrease in mortality from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

(i.e. Tuberculosis affecting Bones, Joints, Glands etc).

Incidence of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

There were no notifications of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis for the second successive year.

Mortality from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

There were no deaths due to Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis for the fourth successive year.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The following is a summary of Immunisation carried out during the year :-

Sessional

Primary	-	21	
Reinforcement	-	-	21

Private

Primary	-	14	
Reinforcement	-	-	14
		Total: 35	(200).

Although there has not been a case of Diphtheria for 5 years in the District, it is still essential that the high level of Immunisation be maintained. It will be seen that the number of Immunisations during 1951, were considerably smaller than during 1950.

For various reasons, Sessional Immunisation is rather difficult, but parents can always make arrangements with the family doctor to have Immunisation carried out privately, at no extra cost.

The following table shows the decrease in cases and deaths from Diphtheria, in England and Wales, since the commencement of the intensive Immunisation Campaign in 1941:-

Year		Number of Cases.		Deaths
1941	-	50,797	-	2,641
1945	-	25,246	-	694
1947	-	10,467	-	245
1950	-	959	-	49
1951	-	699	-	32

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

The following is a summary of vaccinations carried out during the year:-

Primary Vaccination

0 - 1	year	-	4	
1 - 2	years	-	1	
15 +	years	-	1	6

Re-Vaccination

15 +	years	-	1	Total: 7 (15)

There has been a fall in vaccination as compared with the previous year. This is to be regretted as Smallpox continues to occur spasmodically in the United Kingdom.

Parents (whose responsibility it is) should be continually encouraged to have their children vaccinated. Vaccination will be carried out by the family doctor at no extra cost.

P A R T 11.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE AND SANITATION.

MILK SUPPLIES.

Milk Sampling.

The Scheme for the sampling of milk supplies, at consumer level, was continued during the year. Samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory for general bacteriological examination. The Methylene Blue Reduction Test was the routine test applied.

The results of sampling during the year were as follows:-

Satisfactory	60 Samples	(89.5%)
Doubtful	5 Samples	(7.6%)
Unsatisfactory	2 Samples	(2.9%)

The following table shows the annual results of sampling since the Scheme was commenced:-

Year	% Satisfactory	% Doubtful	% Unsatisfactory	Total Samples
1948	41	32.6	26.4	46
1949	69.8	26.1	14.1	106
1950	97.7	2.3	Nil	43
1951	89.5	7.6	2.9	67

It will be seen that the standard decreased in 1951 as compared with the preceding year. The figure of 89.5% satisfactory samples, however, still reflects a high hygienic standard in the handling of milk.

General.

The year commenced with eight on the Register of Distributors. During the year two ceased to distribute and their names were removed from the Register. The year ended with six on the Register of Distributors. One of those removed from the Register was a distributor of Tuberculin Tested Certified Milk.

During the year there were:-

2 Distributors of T.T. Certified Milk.
1 Distributor of Pasteurised Milk.
5 Distributors of Ungraded Milk.

At the end of the year there were:-

1 Distributor of T.T. Certified Milk.
1 Distributor of Pasteurised Milk.
4 Distributors of Ungraded Milk.

The Tuberculin Tested Certified Milk is confined to the Fishguard Ward. The Milk is bottled on the farm where it is produced. The whole of Goodwick, a large part of Fishguard, and the whole of Lower Fishguard is served with Pasteurised Milk. A part of Harbour Village, Goodwick, is served with ungraded milk direct from the farm where it is produced. There are two small distributors of Ungraded Milk in Fishguard and the quantity distributed is very limited. There is a distributor of Ungraded Milk serving Fishguard who supplements his supplies through the Milk Marketing Board from other farms. This milk is collected from the farms by lorry and delivered to the Distributor. This milk is mixed and makes it difficult to ascertain the source of contamination should a bacteriological examination be reported as unsatisfactory. The Pasteurised Milk distributed is subjected to pasteurisation treatment at a large dairy establishment at Carmarthen, and is received by the distributor in sealed churns, and bottled by him at an establishment situate at Goodwick. The condition of the premises had not improved and the dairyman was advised that the premises could not be registered as a Dairy, and the physical conditions did not lend itself to making it suitable. The Dairyman concerned is making a genuine attempt to get more suitable premises, and there is every

indication that new premises will be obtained. The plant for cleaning, sterilizing and bottling is of good modern type, and every effort is made to avoid contamination of the milk and utensils.

No distributor was called to show cause why their names should be removed from the Register during the year.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Sampling.

The following are the results of sampling at consumer level:-

Bacteriological

Satisfactory	19 Samples
Doubtful	Nil Samples.
Unsatisfactory	1 Sample.
	20 Samples

These results are good, but the total number of samples taken was rather low.

Chemical

Nil to Report.

Some Samples for chemical analysis should have been taken.

Sampling at Source level was carried out during the year by the Council's Water Engineer. These samples show a somewhat heavy pollution in the Gathering Grounds, but this is adequately dealt with by filtration and chlorination.

General.

The whole of the area with the exception of a few isolated houses on the area boundaries, is covered with a piped supply of water from mains owned by the Council. The source of supply has not changed, and the whole area is covered by gravitation. The water is taken from the stream Afon Cwmau in the Parish of Morvil. The intake from the stream is collected into a chamber which contains graded limestone media. This acts as a rough filter to arrest coarse vegetation and counteracts to some extent the solvent action of the water. A large tract of land around the intake tanks is vested in the Council and is fenced. This tract of land has been let for the grazing of sheep. A large area of land containing the springs which forms the source of the Afon Cwmau is not owned by the Council and frequent inspections have to be made of this area. As it is so remote, and carcases of animals sometimes left exposed, the decaying organisms are bound to contaminate the streams if steps are not taken to remove the carcases as speedily as possible. The water is conveyed from the intake tanks by means of a 6" diameter pipe to the treatment plant situate at Penwallis, Fishguard. This water is subjected to treatment before entering the Service Reservoir. The method of treatment is to introduce lime into the delivery mains before filtration. Filtration is by means of Paterson Pressure Filters with alum to assit the filtration. Chlorination is affected by means of an automatic feed of Chloros solution with Ammonia and Soda Ash. After treatment, the water is discharged into the storage Reservoir which has a limited capacity of 100,000 gallons. Previous reports have indicated that this storage is inadequate, as it only provides for half a day's supply and there is no margin in the event of a breakdown between the Service Reservoir

and the intakes. Should the level of water in the Service Reservoir be allowed to fall it affects the supply to Stop and Call, Goodwick, and Harbour Village, Goodwick, and it is important that the delivery from the source to the Service Reservoir be consistently maintained.

The proposed Scheme of bringing Glyngarth into commission has not yet started and the possibility of a dry period when the supply from the Afon Cwmau would be insufficient causes some concern.

Number of dwellings connected to pipes supply main	1467
Number of new connections during the year	48
Total connections at the end of year :	1515

HOUSING.

As in general throughout the country there is still a great need for houses Whilst the completion of a number of houses during the year improved the position of some family units, the proportion of inadequately housed is still high.

The Council own at present 170 houses, 16 of which were completed during the year, and 2 which were about ready for occupation at the end of the year. Forty-five of this number were erected before 1945. The total number of houses completed by the Council since 1945 is 125. The rate of building since 1945 has been approximately 20 houses per year which is not keeping up with the demand.

The Council will eventually be faced with the problem of management of the houses as the housing estate increases. This is important, as what may be termed as minor defects may develop into major with the consequent difficulty of keeping the houses in all respects reasonably fit for habitation. There is still a large number of houses in a bad condition, houses which are let in particular. Owners availed themselves of the excuse not to carry out repairs during the War years, and have found another in these days. The excuse used now is that the rent restrictions do not permit the cost of present day repairs, and, it is to be regretted that there is a rapid deterioration in the condition of this kind of property. The percentage of sub-standard dwellinghouses has increased, and the indifference of owners tends to increase it still further.

Number of Dwelling houses in area (all types)	1560
Number of New Houses erected under Licence	5
Number of Houses erected by Council	16
Number of Houses in course of erection	3
Number of Houses inspected under Housing Acts, 1936	194
Number found to be not in all respectsfit for habitation	81
Number made fit after service of Informal Notices	76
Number of Statutory Notices served	2
Number of Houses made fit after service of Formal Notices:	
(a) By Owners	1
(b) By Local Authority	Nil
Number of Notices of Time and Place	3
Number of Undertakings accepted by Council from Owners	1
Number of Demolition Orders made	2
Number of Houses Demolished by Owners	2
Number of Dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders have been made and are still occupied	12
Number of Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	37
Number of Informal Notices under Public Health Act	33
Number of Defects remedied after service of Informal Notices	33
Number of Formal Notices served	1
Number of Defects remedied - By owner	1

Number of Defects remedied - By Local Authority	Nil
Number of Houses occupied by families inadequately housed under requisition powers given to Council	8
Number of families temporarily housed in Huts requisitioned under defence regulations	4

FOOD CONTROL.

Ice Cream Supplies.

Sampling.

The scheme for the general bacteriological sampling of Ice Cream was continued during 1951. Testing and reporting were carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Carmarthen.

The results of sampling during the year were as follows:-

Grade I	(Highly Satisfactory)	- 30)	80.1%
Grade II	(Satisfactory)	- 10)	
Grade III	(Doubtful)	- 1	2.0%
Grade IV	(Unsatisfactory)	- 8	17.9%
	Total :	49	

The following table shows the annual results of sampling from the commencement of the scheme in 1950 :-

Year	% Satisfactory	% Doubtful	% Unsatisfactory	Total Samples
1950	50.0	20.0	30.0	10
1951	80.1	2.0	17.9	49

It will be seen that the percentage of satisfactory samples has risen considerably.

General.

Number of Premises on the Register for the sale of Ice Cream at the end of the year	19
Number of Premises on the Register for Manufacture	2 (included above)

Each of the premises have installed a proper storage receptacle, and a large proportion of the premises only deal with the prepacked variety.

One of the premises registered for the manufacture of Ice Cream has installed an up-to-date plant, which eliminates touch of the ingredients used by hand. The other involves the making by hand and the Ice Cream so manufactured is consumed on the premises.

During the winter months, the sale of Ice Cream is very small. During the period from November to the end of April Ice Cream is sold from three premises only.

Registered Premises.

Sixty-five (65) inspections of registered premises were carried out during the year. It was not found necessary to serve any written notices.

Food Inspection.

Inspections of Food Shops and catering establishments have been carried out during the year. It was a matter of concern and a general complaint throughout the country of the condition of large quantities of cooked ham received from Continental countries, and action was taken at a higher level to bring about the improvement in this particular commodity.

It has also been a matter of concern of the practice of Railway Authorities to transport food in vehicles containing poisonous substances. There have been instances where the containers of poisons have been damaged and the stoppers removed, causing the liquid poisons to render the foods dangerous for consumption.

Generally, the shops are kept in good hygienic condition, but in two instances it has been necessary to call the attention of shopkeepers to their obligations under the Shops Act.

The following foods have been condemned as unfit for human consumption and destroyed :-

1¼ cwts. Flour.	18 Tins Meat.	21 Tins Fish.
13 Tins Milk.	28 Tins Preserved Fruit.	
130 Tins Preserved Vegetables and Soups.		
10 lbs. Fish.	11 lbs. Brawn.	36 lbs. Sausages.
121½ lbs. Cooked Ham in Tins.		210 lbs. Bacon.
26 lbs. Tea.	60 lbs. Cereals.	

Food Poisoning.

Nil to Report.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Number of Factories on the Register	39
Number of Factories with Mechanical Power	25
Number of Factories Non-Power	14
Number of Factory Bakehouses	7
Number of Bakehouses without mechanical power	1

No New Factories or Workshops have been introduced during the year.

Number of Inspections made during the year	73
Number of Defects found under Section 7	4
Number of Notices served for remedy	4
Number of Defects remedied	4
Number of Defects notified by H.M. Inspector	Nil

GENERAL HYGIENE AND SANITATION.

Refuse Disposal.

Refuse continues to be collected from all premises once a week, excepted isolated farms and premises situate in the purely rural part of the district. There has been a slight improvement in the type of receptacle used for the collection of refuse by occupiers but there is still room for improvement. The weight of the contents is often too much for the workmen to lift into the vehicle. In spite of repeated warnings, the practice of disposing of refuse in unauthorised places continues, and in a few instances it has been necessary to warn defaulters where known that legal proceedings would be instituted if this offence was repeated. In a few instances this offence is caused by tradespeople who resort to creating a dump with a view to disposing of the refuse by burning at the rear of the premises, or until they have sufficient to engage someone to transport it to the tip as trade refuse collection is not undertaken by the Council.

All the refuse collected is disposed of on a tip situate on the Moor adjacent to Wern Road, Goodwick. It would appear, that the Council in the near future will be faced with the problem of finding a tipping site as the present tip is nearing the end of its usefulness. It is important that a system of controlled tipping be maintained, as without a sufficient cover of suitable material, the whole system can be a severe nuisance and prejudicial to health.

Sewage Disposal.

The whole of the area is served with sewers. There are of course a few isolated premises which cannot be connected to the mains. Goodwick has a single system which means that separate systems operate for foul sewage and surface water. The limit has now been reached with the sewer at Heol-y-Felin, Goodwick. The falls will not permit any further extension in the direction of Manorowen. There is an area known as New Road, Goodwick, which cannot be served with a sewer without some mechanical means to lift the sewage to discharge into the main sewer on the Railway Embankment.

The whole of the sewage of Goodwick is conveyed through pipes part earthenware and part iron to the one outfall situate near the Factory at Fishguard Harbour, Goodwick; approximately a mile of the main sewers passes through Railway lands. An easement is paid to the Railway Authorities for manholes in a section of this sewer.

The 12" sewer commencing at a point near Goodwick Station to the outfall is vested in the Railway Authorities and the Council pay under an agreement in perpetuity an annual sum for the use of this section. On this section of the sewer there is installed a siphon to lift the sewage sufficient to provide falls for the proper flow.

The whole of Harbour Village, Goodwick, is served with a private sewer which has never been taken over by the Council and is maintained by the Railway Authorities. During the year, Goodwick Sewer was extended to meet the needs of housing developments in the Stop and Call area.

Surface water is discharged at different points into streams and water courses, which finds it way to Goodwick brook hence to the sea.

The foul drains from dwellings are generally of good construction, most of them having been constructed after the construction of the public sewers.

The Fishguard area is served with a sewage system which cannot be regarded as satisfactory. It consists of earthenware pipes and stone culverts and suggests that it has been the result of a series of improvisations over the years. It is not unusual to find that house drains are dry stone conduits particularly in the older type of property. There are three outfalls on the systems at Fishguard, one which discharges at low water mark, and two above low water mark on the foreshores. Such outfalls are vey unsatisfactory as the sewage is not subjected to treatment before discharge. It is to be regretted that owing to the high cost of carrying out the work, the schemes submitted by the Engineers were not proceeded with. The proper sewering with the provision of adequate outfalls at Lower Fishguard remains a serious problem. It is of course problematical whether the type of property and the physical conditions of contours justify a scheme which may be costly. The nature of the soil etc., in this area does not lend itself to the proper burying of night soil, with the result that the inhabitants throw these offensive matters into the tide.

Number of Premises connected to Sewers	1442
Number of Cesspits	48
Number of Pail Closets	75
Other Types of Closet	10
Number of New Connections to Sewer during the year	15
Number of conversions from Pail Closet to W.C.	8

Street Cleansing.

The streets are subjected to frequent sweeping and cleansing, the shopping centre being cleansed on alternate days. This is carried out in the early part of the day. Some shopkeepers make a point of cleaning up the litter and refuse outside their own shops in the early hours of the morning, whilst others do not take this trouble.

Common Lodging Houses.

There is one common lodging house in the area. This is well conducted. The number of inmates is very small.

Public Conveniences.

There are two Public Conveniences situate near the Square, Fishguard, and Quay Road, Goodwick. There is a need for more of these facilities. Work was put in hand for the construction of a public convenience on The Promenade, Goodwick. I respectfully suggest that consideration be given to siting conveniences at Lower Fishguard, Lota Park, near the Sailors Field, Fishguard, and the top of High Street, Fishguard. Also the lower end of Main Street, Goodwick, and Dyffryn, Goodwick.

The list may appear formidable but could be the basis of a progressive programme over a period of years, in view of the desire to make the district an attraction for tourists. The number of tourists coming into the area appears to be increasing each year, and if such increase continues, these facilities will have to be provided.

Rodent Control.

This service is carried out by the Council with a part-time Operator. Private houses are serviced free. All business premises are charged for the services. During the year, sixteen (16) notifications were received of infestations. These were investigated and treated where necessary.

In addition surveys were carried out on farm premises and other business premises. For some reason occupiers of business premises are loathe to inform the Local Authority of the presence of any pests, and are of the opinion that the keeping of cats is sufficient to meet their legal obligations. It is a statutory obligation on all occupiers of premises to give notice to the Local Authority of the presence of any pests on the premises. It is pleasing to note that there has been a steady decrease of the population of rats in the area, and whilst it can be said that this menace is now under control, any relaxation of operations would be likely to cause the menace to develop to an alarming extent. While it is the duty of Local Authorities to ensure that farm premises are kept under control, Destructive Services on these premises are carried out by the Agricultural Executive Committee.

Port Sanitation.

The nature of the port has not changed. No foreign bound ships arrive or leave the port. The shipping is confined to that plying between Fishguard and Eire, that is, between Cork, Waterford and Rosslare. The services have not increased.

No medical inspection of aliens is carried out at the Port.

The ships are periodically inspected and are maintained in good hygienic condition. The Cork and Waterford Ships are adapted for the transport of cattle.

The amount of cattle transported during the year was very small and there is not much evidence of increasing this traffic.

There has, however, been an increase in the importation of horses intended for slaughter as food. Goats have been imported on a large scale during the year.

There was a slight increase in the importation of beef during the year. Bacon, dead poultry, remained just about the same as in the previous year.

The perishable foods imported do not remain at the port very long. Usually, it is loaded into trains almost immediately after arrival and transported to the large populated areas, chiefly London.

At one period of the year, the quality of beef imported while free from specific diseases was of very poor quality, which suggested that the meat had been a long time in transition, but this condition improved after a time.

During the year, six (6) carcases of goat meat, 480.1bs. of Beef, and one (1) Carcase of horse meat were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

The ships are periodically inspected for rodents and where necessary the certificates of exemption under the Pest Control Shipping Order, have been issued.